



Revelation Ch 1 :12-20



What did John see?

1. WHAT HE SAW, AND HIS REACTION (12-17a)

1. Turning to see the voice, he saw... (12-16)

1. Seven golden lampstands

(These were not candlesticks, they were not menorahs, but they were free standing oil lamp stands.)

(Exodus 25:31-37 one lampstand with 7 lamps)

The lamp stand in the tabernacle was to give light. And had to be filled.

Another thought, 1 lamp in the O.T. 1 church. N.T. 7 lamps the whole church.

The lampstand does not give the light, it is the oil / lamp that gives light and the stand simply displays the light.

John 8:12 Jesus is the light

Matt 5:14-16 we are the light

What did John see?

1. In the midst of the seven lampstands, One like the Son of Man

Now John sees Jesus!

In the midst, in the middle of the church!

Matt 18:20

1. Clothed with a garment down to the feet, girded about the chest with a golden band

Long garments were only worn by those who didn't have to work much, so they were a picture of great status and authority.

The golden band around the chest probably hints at the garments of the high priest (Exodus 29:5).

Exodus 39:1-5 (golden thread)

Exodus 30:7 (the priest tends the lamps)

What did John see?

2.His head and hair white as wool, white as snow

White hair is a sign of old age and wisdom

White as snow:

Numbers 12:10 (leprous Miriam)

2 kings 5:27 (Naaman leprous)

Psa 68:14 (the Almighty scattered kings it was white as snow)

Isa 1:18 (your sins)

Dan 7:9 (the Ancient of days whose garment is white as snow)

Matt 28:3 (His raiment white as snow)

Mark 9:3 (“”)

What did John see?

3. His eyes like a flame of fire

Throughout Scripture, fire is a primary way God's righteous wrath and judgement on sin are depicted.

Examples like the burning bush, Mount Sinai, Pentecost, and descriptions of Christ's return all employ the imagery of fire to represent God's glory, holiness, and judgement

2 Peter 3:7

But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

What did John see?

4. His feet like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace

This speaks as of someone who has come from, or out of the furnace (judgment)

A refiner's fire melts down a metal, such as gold or silver, for purification purposes. Once a metal is in its melted down state, the dross in the metal rises to the top and is then removed from the metal before it cools. God spoke this analogy through the prophet Malachi to describe how he purifies our hearts.

Malachi 3:1-3

Notice His feet were brass. As if His steps or we walked through the furnace.

The trial?

Strongest metal at the time.

What did John see?

5. His voice as the sound of many waters
Strong and powerful.

6. In His right hand, seven stars

The stars according to vs 20 are the overseeing angels of the churches.

Superhuman or heavenly being who serves as God's messenger. Both the Hebrew malak [J; 'm] and the Greek angelos [a [ggelo"] indicate that these beings also act decisively in fulfilling God's will in the world. But these two terms also apply to human beings as messengers (1 Kings 19:2 ; Hag 1:13 ; Luke 7:24).

186 times in Bible. 76 times in Revelation (8 exceptions)

Never once is it translated "pastor."

In keeping with Bible terminology, "stars" and "angels" are linked. People and stars, however, are never associated with each other in Scripture.

What did John see?

Angels served in Israel's history concerning Divine revelation, particularly regarding prophecy.

Daniel (God sent the Angel Gabriel to give him "skill and understanding")

Luke (Mary understanding of why she was pregnant.)

Zechariah the Prophet received Divine insight into prophecy from angelic beings

Ezekiel had visions of angels and their roles in God's program for Israel.

What did John see?

Using all of this background, we can see why Almighty God would have literal angelic beings in Revelation chapters 1–3, rather than mere human messengers.!!

- God has one angel leading each of the seven main assemblies in Asia (that is, Asia Minor, modern Turkey). The letter to each church is written specifically to the angel leading each church. These angels are commissioned to take the doctrine and illuminate the Jewish believers in Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and L
- Hebrews, chapter 1: 13 -14, states concerning Israel and the end-times: *“But to which of the **angels** said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? **Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?**”* Indeed, angels have a ministry to the church today and at the end!

What did John see?

Important note:

They are in His hands....

Secure and there are 7

The complete church, is secure in His hands.

What did John see?

7. Out of His mouth, a sharp two-edged sword

- The word of God as a sword is a metaphor that describes **the power and effectiveness of God's word in revealing the truth and exposing the sin**
- This is a heavy sword used to kill and destroy. Not the same used in Eph 6:17 that was more precise.
- The word of God also cuts through the false hopes of the self-deceived and shows them their need for repentance
- The Word of God is absolute truth.

What did John see?

8. His countenance like the sun shining in its strength

Shekinah glory

as in His transfiguration, when His face shone like the sun (Matthew 17:2).

1. Seeing Him, John fell at His feet as dead (17)

What did John do?

1. Seeing Him, John fell at His feet as dead (17)
This is not being slain by the Sprit.

What did Jesus do?

1. THE LORD'S WORDS TO JOHN (17b-20)

He put His hand on John and said...

1. "Do not be afraid" (17b-18)

1. "I am the First and the Last"

2. "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen."

3. "I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

What did Jesus tell John to do?

1. "Write..." (19)

1. "The things which you have seen"

2. "The things which are"

3. "The things which will take place after this"

2. "The mystery of the seven stars...and the seven golden lampstands" (20)

1. "The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches"

2. "The seven lampstands...are the seven churches"